

## PARIS SEES PROOF OF GERMAN WANT

The "Temps" Thinks Reply to American Note Betrays Extreme Needs.

HUMBLE, SAYS "FIGARO"

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The German reply to the American note is taken here as proof that the Germans are in extremities and that they are making effort to avoid surrender through want. The Temps says the reply, while very long, can be summarized in a few lines. The German fleet is incapable of disputing with England the mastery of the sea. Great Britain controls the maritime communications and, in virtue of the theory of necessity, Germany assumes the right to torpedo without warning whenever it suits her purpose merchantmen of whatever nationality approaching the coast. Germany, the paper says, proclaims peace of war. The Temps continues:

"There seems to be dreaming when such monstrous theories are laid down with such consciousness and when German destroyers justify piracy and assassination by invoking a nation's rights. The Imperial Chancellor accuses the United States of favoring the Allies and the Allies which it would sell equally to the Germans if the latter could transport them, and at the same time Von Bethmann-Hollweg opens the door to negotiations by trying to induce the Americans to form convoys for German ships intended for Germany's ports."

"More Germanic Temptation."

"An even more Germanic temptation appears in the offer of German prizes in exchange for favorable treatment as Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg promised a German alliance with Great Britain if the latter abandoned France."

"Germany is making a supreme effort to avoid the consequences which are impending in the scarcity of food and in being the same fury as in vain she has made assaults against the walls of the Allies."

"The many reply in regard to Washington's warnings in regard to the grave consequences which her announced policy might have, only affirm her confidence in the tolerance of neutral nations, even if by torpedoing their ships she should sow terror among them. President Wilson, an ardent jurist and Secretary of State Ryan a notable humanitarian and American will be somewhat surprised at the German attitude. American opinion will see therein perhaps at once a challenge and a bait."

"The Journal des Debats, commenting on the German note, says it is only a continuation of the German policy of the last years in perpetrating that the German people are deceived by what they are told to believe. Her complaints, if well founded, do not give her the right to revenge England's wrongs against her on American, Scandinavian and Italian boats."

"The paper continues: 'Germany's language is perfectly clear. She maintains her previous pretension to establish a blockade in a maritime region actually deluged, which is not effective. In a word, the reply is a refusal.'

"Disappointment Surprises."

"Telegrams show that the reply has produced in the United States deep disappointment and anger. This disappointment agrees with the attitude which could be expected from the Germans. The answer is natural and legitimate."

"The State sums up the reply as black and blindfold to the real state of events. 'Germany,' the paper says, 'makes no real reply to the American warning and gives no assurance.'

"The figure thus the German reply huddle and almost supple. It says it begs for America's friendship and usually repeats the document of the States for neutrality toward the Allies."

"Georges Clemenceau in his paper, L'Humanite, and other writers recall that it was famous that allowed the Germans to enter Paris in 1871. M. Clemenceau says the German newspapers allege that Germany has nothing to fear from the power of the United States. He points out that England is constituting an army of 3,000,000 men and adds:

"The enormous industrial power of the United States and the dauntless courage of its citizens could also make that country a war power."

WASHINGTON HELPLESS.

Officials Undecided on Action in Face of Two Notes.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Government officials admitted today that the United States is practically helpless in the position in which it now finds itself as a result of the recent correspondence with Germany and Great Britain.

The British decision to send the Wilhelm's food cargo to a prize court is deeply regretted here, as this Government has received notice from Germany that interference with the Wilhelm's could result in a more drastic policy by Germany.

The British note regarding the deceptive use of the American flag is regarded as disappointing and highly unsatisfactory. The document was generally characterized today as far below the usual standard of those bearing Sir Edward Grey's signature. However, in which an official British has disavowed the charge that she had instructed her shipping to use neutral flags there is no further that the United States can do on the subject.

With regard to the German note a difference of opinion has developed for some time. A continuation of the correspondence with that Government. At present the Administration opinion seems to incline toward continuing the correspondence with the determination, however, that the position the United States has already taken in defense of its rights shall not be modified in the slightest degree.

Those in favor of leaving the German note unanswered believe that in order to make the United States must either recall the words of its first note or threaten Germany with force. Both alternatives are regarded as tantamount to a declaration of war. The first note was so vigorous and positive that no middle ground is left upon which to continue the discussion.

On the other hand, Germany offered two suggestions of which many here believe the United States must take advantage, to the point of discussion of it. It is to establish its sincerity and good faith. One was that a method be worked out by which American vessels might be conveyed through the dangerous waters by American warships. The other was that the two governments discuss means by which neutral vessels might be safeguarded in the dangerous waters.

Those favoring a termination of the correspondence assert that Germany does not really want to work out any means of safeguarding neutral shipping in the war area.

## The Week in the War

SUNDAY, February 14.—The Lusitania leaves Liverpool flying British flag. Capt. Dow saying he might use American flag if circumstances warranted. Russians force Austrians south through the Dukla Pass in the Carpathians. Germans gain slight advantage over French in Champagne district but are repulsed at Arras. Count von Bernstorff urges United States to protest against holding up of Wilhelm's by Great Britain.

MONDAY, February 15.—Russians retire along the Niemen before German forces. Ambassador Gerard invited to see Kaiser at the front regarding seizure of the Wilhelm's. Germans take Norroy from the French.

TUESDAY, February 16.—German Embassy in Washington gives out a note declaring that Germany will not yield to United States on war zone decree, but intimates that the blockade order may be cancelled if food shipments are permitted to reach Germany. French War Office reports two German attacks in Lorraine and Alsace repulsed. Fighting in eastern war zone from the Niemen to the Vistula continues.

WEDNESDAY, February 17.—German war zone crisis at critical stage. German Admiral von Behncke hands to American Embassy in Berlin statement admitting that lack of food caused Germany to declare the blockade. British Government places prize crew aboard Wilhelm's. Forty British and French seaplanes and aeroplanes make greatest raid in history against German positions on coast of Belgium, dropping 240 bombs. French gain in Argonne, near Ypres, in Champagne and near Rheims. Germans capture Block and Bielsk.

THURSDAY, February 18.—German blockade of British waters begins with sinking of British steam collier Dulwich and French steamer Ville de Lille. Final British note to Washington offers statistics to prove American commerce has not been seriously injured. England will not alter policy of detaining and searching American ships. French report notable successes at Arras, Rheims, in Champagne district, in Argonne and in Alsace. Germans announce Russians have been defeated in East Prussia and 50,000 Russians have been captured.

FRIDAY, February 19.—German reply to protest of United States against proclamation of war zone in all British waters handed out of Berlin. Government makes no concessions regarding blockade order and declares British naval methods forced adoption of retaliatory methods. Two Zeppelins destroyed off coast of Denmark. French report successes on western front, including capture of Norroy in Lorraine.

SATURDAY, February 20.—Norwegian steamer Nordkap and French steamer Chinalor damaged by German mines or submarines in English Channel. British Government gives out two notes addressed to Washington. In the first it affirms right to hold Wilhelm's cargo. In the second Sir Edward Grey promises that practice of using neutral flags by merchant vessels will be limited.

To be continued next Sunday.

## FINDS MUNICH FIRST IN RUSH TO BATTLE

"Neutral" in London "Times" Says City Has Fewest Men Remaining Behind.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

London, Feb. 20.—The Times' "neutral" correspondent, who is contributing a series of articles on conditions in Germany, found the spirit of the residents of Munich unprepared and disoriented and criticism of the war, its advantages and probable results possible.

"The Bavarians," he says, "regard themselves as the inheritors of French culture. They speak appreciatively of the French people and do not expect any annexation of French territory as a result of the war, but hope for a resumption of friendship with France. The people of Munich are greatly occupied in caring for the wounded, allaying the economic distress of the people and forwarding gifts to the troops."

"The prevalent opinion is that the war will last a long time. The people are preparing accordingly. Many women are employed in office work and there are fewer male civilians of arm bearing age remaining in Munich than in any other city in the country. There is such a dearth of male labor that women are even clearing the snow from the streets. There is no unemployment."

"The Bavarians are sorry for the Belgians, but think they were stupid in refusing to allow the Germans to pass through their country unopposed. The fact that the Queen of the Belgians is a Bavarian has not affected their views. Conservative Germans generally believe it to be impossible to drive the Germans from Belgium."

"The writer referred to King Albert as one of the most heroic figures of the war, and received the reply, 'Of course, he's a German!'"

SERVANS BOMBARD SEMLIN.

Vienna News Post Office Has Been Destroyed by Shells.

Vienna, Feb. 20.—An official despatch from Vienna says Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Imperial Chancellor, is expected today at the Austrian headquarters, where Baron von Burian, the Austro-Hungarian Premier, has arrived.

The official statement continues: "Servian heavy artillery has bombarded Semlin and Mitrovitz, destroying several buildings, including the Semlin post office."

Austrians Say Servian Fire Provoked Shelling of Belgrade.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The shelling of Belgrade by the Austrian forces was not, as reported, without provocation but according to statements made at the Austro-Hungarian Embassy here today was in reply to the shelling of Semlin by the Servians. It is also charged that despatches received at the embassy that the Servians shelled open and undefended Hungarian towns, killing women and children.

France Gives Medal to Gen. French.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The French Government has decided to confer the military medal on Field Marshal Sir John French, commander of the British expeditionary forces.

Paris Bourse Only for Frenchmen.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The agents de change of the Paris Bourse have decided that orders and sales only for the account of persons of French nationality will be executed henceforth on the Bourse.

## FRENCH CONTINUE GAINS IN VOSGES

Paris Reports Capture of 200 Prisoners and Several Guns.

PROGRESS NEAR PERTHES

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The following official communiqué was issued by the War Office to-night:

In Belgium and on the entire front up to and including Rheims, there has been considerable and effective activity. Our activity continues in Champagne under satisfactory conditions.

We have repulsed several counter attacks and made new gains north of Perthes, where we have occupied a wood which the enemy had solidly organized. In the Argonne there have been a few engagements of minor importance.

At Les Eparges, south of Verdun, after repulsing a sixth counter attack by the enemy, we delivered a new attack which enabled us to develop and complete the gains achieved yesterday. We captured three machineguns and two bomb throwers and took 200 prisoners.

At Non, where we captured the German positions, we have found the bodies of soldiers belonging to five different German regiments.

In the afternoon statement attacks and counter attacks by both sides in the Argonne were mentioned. The Allies acted mainly on the defensive. There were no decisive results and neither side advanced except in the Vosges, where in a counter attack on Hill 407 the Germans succeeded in gaining a footing on the eastern spur of the hill.

There were artillery duels in Belgium, where the Germans shelled Neuport. Those were successfully countered. Part of Ypres yesterday was an artillery action followed by a bayonet charge by Germans, which was repulsed. From the Lyne to the Oise and on the heavy guns of both sides were active.

In Belgium the Germans bombarded Neuport and the Dunes. These batteries were effectively countered by ours. The Germans appear to have employed important forces in yesterday's attack against our trenches to the east of Ypres. After an intense bombardment of our positions the Germans attacked with the bayonet, but were repulsed. The writer held by its fire the reserves which were to have supported the first line attack. The German losses were very high.

From the Lyne to the Oise and on the Alps, in the region of Berry-au-Bac, the great artillery activity prevailed.

It is confirmed that the German losses in the campaign of the last few days have been considerable. According to statements of prisoners a battalion has been destroyed.

On the heights of the Meuse, toward right yesterday, the Germans delivered their fourth counter attack against the trenches which we took at Les Eparges. This attack was beaten back like the three preceding ones, by our artillery.

In the Vosges the Germans continued unsuccessfully their counter attacks on Hill 407, south of Lunel. South of La Foch the Germans succeeded in gaining a footing on the eastern spur. Fighting continued at this point, where we had an advanced post. Rain and snow are falling in the Vosges.

FRENCH REPULSED.

Attempts to Pierce German Lines in Champagne Failed, Says Berlin.

Berlin, Feb. 20, by wireless to London.—The official statement regarding operations in the west given out today by the German army headquarters says:

Strong French forces attacked the German positions in the Champagne region to the north of Perthes and to the north of Les Meules yesterday. All attempts to break through the German lines, however, failed. In some places the enemy entered into the advanced German trenches where fighting continued. Otherwise the enemy was repulsed and suffered heavy losses.

To the north of Verdun a French attack also was repulsed. Near Combaux preparations for renewed

French attacks were made by violent artillery bombardment.

Fighting continues in the Vosges. The Germans stormed the enemy's main positions of two kilometers on the heights to the west of Suizern, and also on Reichelsackerkopf, to the west of Munster. A battle for possession of the heights to the north of Muehlbach is going on. Metzlerland and Sandernach have been occupied by the Germans after a battle.

NEW TROOPS IN HUNGARY

Willen Promised to Von Burian Not Likely Before March.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

London, Feb. 20.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs the following:

Despatches from Berlin say that fresh German troops are going to Hungary at the rate of from 15,000 to 25,000 a day, but the general opinion is that the million promised to Baron von Burian, the Austrian Foreign Minister, cannot arrive before March.

The recent closing of Danzig harbor was due to the transportation of troops to the Niemen River to take part in the great flanking movement against the Russians. The harbor has now been reopened.

TOLSTOY'S GRANDSONS IN WAR.

Two Wounded—One Held Prisoner in Hungary.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

Paris, Feb. 20.—A Petrograd despatch to the Temps says two grandsons of the late Count Tolstoy have been fighting in the Russian army.

One has been wounded in the fighting in East Prussia. His name has been mentioned for the Cross of St. George. The other, who is a prisoner in Hungary, has also been pronounced for the cross.

## RUSSIANS MASSING TO SAVE WARSAW

Inflit Heavy Losses on German Invaders, Checking Their Advance.

BATTLE IN CARPATHIANS

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

London, Feb. 20.—Russia has begun a supreme effort to defeat the plans of the Germans to descend from the north upon Warsaw, cut off the Russian railway communications and capture the big fortified towns, according to a Petrograd despatch received here to-night.

At Osovetz, twenty miles northeast of Lomza, in Russian Poland, the Czar's troops have inflicted heavy losses on the invaders, which checked their advance.

Military experts here do not believe that the German plan to relieve Pressburg by investing Warsaw can be carried out. Before Warsaw is in serious danger Novo Georgievsk must be taken and, according to the military expert of the Times, this is the strongest fortress in the world. Fighting is becoming more severe in the Carpathian passes. Berlin despatches tell of simultaneous actions at six places in sixty miles. They say these engagements are developing into a battle of immense importance. The Russians still hold the advantage in this section.

The action on the Pruth has re-

solved itself into a rear guard attack of the Austro-German forces, who are marching parallel with the Rumanian front. It is admitted, however, that the Russians are still falling back north of Bukovina.

RUSSIANS DRIVEN BACK.

Berlin Reports Success Near Kolno, Russian Poland.

Berlin, Feb. 20, by wireless to London.—The German army headquarters gave out to-day the following official statement regarding operations in the east:

In the district of the northwest of Grodno (Russian Poland) and to the north of Suwalki there has been no important change.

To the southeast of Kolno (Russian Poland) the enemy has been driven back into his advanced position of Lomza.

South of Mlynskie, northeast of Przasnysz, and east of Rastawa there have been engagements of a local character. From the south of the Vistula there is nothing new to report.

DUTCH WILL NOT YIELD.

Head of Overseas Trust Says Navigation Will Not Stop.

By Central News.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Feb. 20.—M. von Jaat, president of the Netherlands Overseas Trust, in an interview published in the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, says that he will never agree to a stoppage of Dutch navigation. He disapproves of the practice of belligerents using neutral flags and expresses the opinion that the British people will insist that such practice be discontinued in order that trouble with neutral Powers may be averted.

The action on the Pruth has re-

## BRITISH SHIP SUNK; NO NOTICE

Continued from First Page.

interrupted with the coming of the time set by the German Admiralty for their raiding campaign, was required generally yesterday. The crews of one Danish and three Norwegian steamers are reported to have refused to make the trip to England. Dutch shipmasters and crews, however, are described in a despatch from Amsterdam as undaunted by the German proclamation and take the view that the danger is no greater than it has been for the past six months. The insurance rates reflect the uneasiness of shipowners and show increase.

'RESPONSIBILITY ON U. S.'

Berlin Paper Comments on Refusal to Send Convoys.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 20.—The Berlin press prints this morning a Washington despatch quoting Secretary Daniels as saying that no American warships would be used to convey American merchant vessels in the war zone recently prescribed by the German Admiralty.

With the exception of the Kreuzzeitung, the newspapers print the despatch without comment. The Kreuzzeitung makes the following comment: "If this report is correct and Secretary Daniels' declaration expresses the attitude of the Cabinet the responsibility rests on America for all the accidents which we should like to avoid and for the avoidance of which we gave into the hands of the United States the only possible remedy."



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